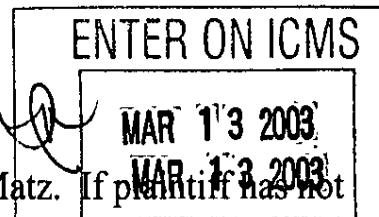


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11 Scan Only

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 BRITNEY BRANDS, INC.,
12 Plaintiff(s),
13 v.
14 SKECHERS USA., INC.,
15 Defendant(s).

16 } CASE NO. CV02-9774-AHM(JWJx)
17 } ORDER SETTING RULE 26(f)
18 } SCHEDULING CONFERENCE
19 }
20 } Date: May 12, 2003
21 } Time: 1:30 p.m.



22 This case has been assigned to Judge A. Howard Matz. If plaintiff has not
23 already served the complaint (or any amendment thereto) on all defendants,
24 plaintiff shall promptly do so and shall file proofs of service within three days
25 thereafter. Defendants also shall timely serve and file their responsive pleadings
26 and file proofs of service within three days thereafter.

27 This matter is set for a scheduling conference on the above date. The
28 conference will be held pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 16(b). The parties are reminded
29 of their obligations under Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(1) to disclose information (without
30 awaiting a discovery request) and under R. 26(f) to confer on a discovery plan not
31 later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the scheduling conference and to file a
32 [Signature] 9

1 report with the Court entitled "Joint Rule 26(f) Report" not later than fourteen
 2 (14) days after they confer. Failure to comply with the following requirements or
 3 to cooperate in the preparation of the Joint Rule 26(f) Report may lead to the
 4 imposition of sanctions.

5 **Unless there is a likelihood that upon motion by a party the Court
 6 would order that any or all discovery is premature, it is advisable for counsel
 7 to begin to conduct discovery actively before the Scheduling Conference. At
 8 the very least, the parties shall comply fully with the letter and spirit of
 9 Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a) and thereby obtain and produce most of what would be
 10 produced in the early stage of discovery, because at the Scheduling
 11 Conference the Court will impose tight deadlines to complete discovery.**

12 **1. Joint Rule 26(f) Report.**

13 The Joint Rule 26(f) Report, which shall be filed not later than one week
 14 before the scheduling conference, shall be drafted by plaintiff (unless the parties
 15 agree otherwise), but shall be submitted and signed jointly. "Jointly"
 16 contemplates a single report, regardless of how many separately-represented
 17 parties there are. The Joint Rule 26(f) Report shall report on all matters
 18 enumerated below, which include those required to be discussed by Rule 26(f) and
 19 Local Rule 26:

- 20 a. a short synopsis (not to exceed two pages) of the main claims,
 21 counterclaims, and/or affirmative defenses.
- 22 b. a brief description of the **key legal issues**.
- 23 c. the realistic range of **provable damages**.
- 24 d. whether there is **insurance coverage**.
- 25 e. a statement of the **likelihood of motions** seeking to (i) add other
 26 parties or claims or (ii) file amended pleadings or (iii) transfer venue.
- 27 f. **Discovery and Experts**. Pursuant to Rule 26(f), state what, if any,
 28 changes in the disclosures under R. 26(a) should be made; the

1 subjects on which discovery may be needed and whether discovery
 2 should be conducted in phases or otherwise be limited; what
 3 discovery has been conducted thus far; whether applicable limitations
 4 should be changed or other limitations imposed; and whether the
 5 Court should enter other orders. Please state how many depositions
 6 each side will conduct. Also discuss the proposed time of **expert**
 7 **witness disclosures** under F.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(2).

- 8 g. a description of the issues or claims that any party believes may be
 9 determined by motion for **summary judgment or motion in limine**.
- 10 h. a statement of what **settlement** discussions and/or written
 11 communications have occurred (specifically excluding any statement
 12 of the terms discussed) and a statement pursuant to the Local Rule
 13 16-14.4 selecting a settlement mechanism under that rule.
- 14 i. a realistic (not padded) **estimate of the time required for trial** and
 15 whether trial will be by jury or by court. Each side should specify
 16 (by number, not by name) how many witnesses it contemplates
 17 calling. If the time estimate for trial given in the Rule 26(f) Joint
 18 Report exceeds eight court days, counsel shall be prepared at the
 19 Scheduling Conference to explain why a lengthier trial is estimated.
- 20 j. **Presumptive Schedule of Pretrial Dates.** The parties should fill in
 21 the form attached as Exhibit A to this Order and attach it to the Rule
 22 26(f) report. *The current entries in the "Weeks Before Trial" column
 23 merely reflect what the Court believes are appropriate for many, if
 24 not most, cases; those entries are not necessarily applicable to this
 25 case, and the form is designed to enable counsel to request the Court
 26 to set different last dates by which the key requirements must be
 27 completed.* Each side should write in the month, day and year it
 28 requests for each event. *E.g.*, for the expert discovery cut-off it might

1 be "10/7/02" for plaintiff and "10/28/02" for defendant, if they
2 cannot agree. At the conference, the Court will review this form with
3 counsel. Each entry proposing dates shall fall on a Monday, except
4 the trial date which is a Tuesday. In appropriate cases the Court will
5 order different dates after it hears from Counsel. **The proposed non-**
6 **expert and expert discovery cut-off date means:** The last day by
7 which all depositions must be completed and responses to all
8 previously-served written discovery must be provided. **It does not**
9 **mean** the last day to initiate discovery or to file a motion with the
10 magistrate judge seeking to compel discovery. **The proposed cut-**
11 **off date for motions means:** The last date on which motions may be
12 heard, not noticed.

- 13 k. a statement of any other issues affecting the status or management
14 of the case (e.g., unusually complicated technical or technological
15 issues, disputes over protective orders, extraordinarily voluminous
16 document production, non-English speaking witnesses, discovery in
17 foreign jurisdictions, etc.).
- 18 l. for conflict purposes, corporate parties must identify all
19 subsidiaries, parents and affiliates.
- 20 m. **Patent Cases:** Propose dates and methodology for claim
21 construction and *Markman* hearings.
- 22 n. **Do the parties wish to have a Magistrate Judge preside?** Under
23 28 U.S.C. § 636, the parties may consent to have a Magistrate Judge
24 preside over all the proceedings, not just discovery. They may pick
25 any Magistrate Judge (not just the one assigned to this case) from
26 among those Magistrate Judges who accept these designations.
27 (They are identified on the Central District's website, which also
28 contains the consent form.)

1 The Joint Rule 26(f) Report should set forth the above enumerated
2 information under section headings corresponding to this Order.

3 **2. Scheduling Conference.** The Scheduling Conference will be held in
4 Courtroom 14 of the Federal Courthouse at 312 N. Spring Street. Counsel shall
5 comply with the following:

- 6 a. **Participation.** The lead trial attorney must attend the Scheduling
7 Conference, unless excused for good cause shown in advance of the
8 Scheduling Conference.
- 9 b. **Continuance.** A continuance of the Scheduling Conference will be
10 granted only for good cause.
- 11 c. **Use of Conference Telephone.** If one or more of the lead counsel has
12 his or her office outside of Los Angeles County, the Court is
13 normally willing, at counsel's request, to conduct the status
14 conference by conference telephone call. Please contact the court
15 clerk at (213) 894-5283 to get approval. Opposing counsel who are
16 outside of Los Angeles County may also participate by telephone.
17 The attorney who has received approval to participate by telephone
18 shall call (213) 894-5290 at the time and date specified above for
19 specific instructions, which might include being required to remain
20 available on the telephone until the case is called. After the other
21 participants are assembled, that attorney will be notified that he or
22 she must promptly originate the conference call.

23 **3. Protective Orders.** If you seek a protective order, propose it to opposing
24 counsel before the Scheduling Conference, if at all possible. In a separate order,
25 the Court has enumerated precise requirements for protective orders and the
26 treatment of confidential information. In proposing a protective order for this
27 case, please comply with that order, which is available on the Court's website.

1 4. **Notice to be Provided by Counsel.** Plaintiff's counsel or, if plaintiff is
2 appearing *pro se*, defendant's counsel, shall provide this Order to any parties who
3 first appear after the date of this Order and to parties who are known to exist but
4 have not yet entered appearances.

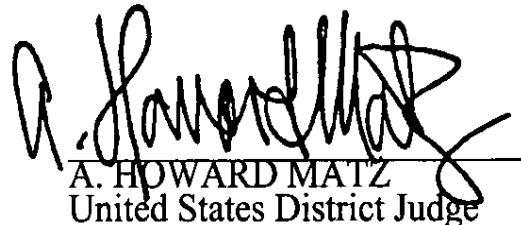
5 5. **Disclosures to Clients.** Counsel are ordered to deliver to their respective
6 clients a copy of this Order and of the Court's Scheduling and Case Management
7 Order, which contains the schedule that the Court imposes at the Scheduling
8 Conference.

9 6. **Court's Website.** Copies of this and all other orders of this Court that may
10 become applicable to this case are available on the Central District of California
11 website, at "www.cacd.uscourts.gov," under "Judge's Requirements." Copies of
12 the Local Rules are available on the website.¹

13 The Court thanks the parties and their counsel for their anticipated
14 cooperation in carrying out these requirements.

15 IT IS SO ORDERED.

16
17 Dated: MAR 12 2003



A. HOWARD MATZ
United States District Judge

18
19 Copies to:
20 All Counsel of Record

21
22
23
24

25 ¹ They may also be purchased from one of the following:

26 Los Angeles Daily Journal
27 915 East First Street
28 Los Angeles, CA 90012

West Publishing Company
50 West Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55164-9979

Metropolitan News
210 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**JUDGE A HOWARD MATZ
PRESUMPTIVE SCHEDULE OF PRETRIAL DATES**

Matter	Time	Weeks before trial	Plaintiff's Request	Defendant's Request:	Court Order
Trial date (jury) (court) Estimated length: _____ days	8:00 a.m.				
[Court trial:] File Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Summaries of Direct Testimony		-1			
Final Pretrial Conference; Hearing on Motions in Limine; File Agreed Upon Set of Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms and Joint Statement re Disputed Instructions and Verdict Forms; File Proposed <i>Voir Dire</i> Qs and Agreed-to Statement of Case	11:00 a.m.	-2			
Lodge Pretrial Conf. Order File Memo of Contentions of Fact and Law; Exhibit List; Witness List; Status Report re Settlement		-3			
Last day for hand-serving Motions in Limine		-5			
Last day for hearing motions	10:00 a.m.	-7			
Last day for hand-serving motions and filing (other than Motions in Limine)		-11			
Non-expert Discovery cut-off		-15			

ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED AT SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

L.R. 16-14 Settlement Choice: (1) CT/USMJ (2) Atty (3) Outside ADR (4) Settlement Panel

Expert discovery cut-off				
Rebuttal Expert Witness Disclosure				
Opening Expert Witness Disclosure [See F.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(2)]				
Last day to conduct Settlement Conference				
Last day to amend pleadings or add parties				

EXHIBIT A